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## Malachius aeneus (L.) (Col.: Melyridae) in Cambs. and elsewhere

Cambridgeshire is not among the rather numerous counties listed for this attractive species, now much decreased and classed as "rare" (Hyman & Parsons, 1992, A review of the scarce and threatened Coleoptera of Great Britain. part 1: 360). It is therefore worth reporting that the late C.E. Tottenham found it profusely at a restricted site within the bounds of Cambridge about 1950 or 51. It was along a hedgerow bordering a field, which he pointed out to me, where the beetle was still common (mostly males) on 25.v.52. This is the sole record for East Anglia that I can find.

Otherwise I have met with *M. aeneus* only singly: Brockenhurst, New Forest, 21.vi.35, a male and Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, 12.vi.40, a female. The site, by the river Lea, was a productive one which I constantly revisited in that and later years without seeing another. I have also a male taken in this district (Shooters Hill, West Kent) by my late friend A.W. Gould in May 1952; it was on an umbel, probably of *Anthriscus*, in a lane bordering the golf-course, where I have often collected in subsequent years. Though unchanged, *M. aeneus* seems unlikely to survive there.— A.A. Allen, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.